

Appl. No. 10/733,560
Docket No. AA554C
Amdt. dated November 6, 2006
Reply to Office Action mailed on August 4, 2006
Customer No. 27752

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for recommending a disposable absorbent incontinence article to be used by an incontinent person, comprising the steps of:
 - (a) ~~receiving~~ inputting information, from a user, about incontinence devices which are currently used by the incontinent person;
 - (b) ~~receiving~~ inputting information about the situation which is experienced by the user; and
 - (c) selecting at least one article, based on the information received, among predetermined disposable absorbent incontinence articles; and
 - (d) recommending the at least one article to the user.
2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step for selecting at least one article comprises the step of selecting a combination of two articles, based on the information received, among the predetermined disposable absorbent incontinence articles.
3. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of;
 - (d) evaluating the quality of life of a caregiver who takes care of the incontinent person, and
 - (e) repeating the steps (a), (b) and (c).
4. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of ~~receiving~~ inputting information comprises the step of indicating a question and a plurality of possible answers for selection and inputting one or more answers to the question.
5. (Original) The method of Claim 4, wherein the question for the information about the user's situation is on the ability of body action of the incontinent person.
6. (Original) The method of Claim 4, wherein the question for the information about the user's situation is on the ability of hand/finger activity of the incontinent person.
7. (Original) The method of Claim 4, wherein the question for the information about the user's situation is on the content(s) of leakage of the incontinent person.

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8. (Original) The method of Claim 4, wherein the question for the information about the user's situation is on the availability and/or the quality of the caregiving.
9. (Original) The method of Claim 4, wherein the question for the information about the user's situation is on the amount of urine discharged by the incontinent person for a time period specified by the user.
10. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the predetermined disposable absorbent incontinence articles include at least two articles which are selected from the group consisting of a disposable taped diaper, a disposable pull-on diaper, a disposable urine incontinence pad, a disposable flat pad, a disposable faecal collector pouch, and a disposable urine collector pouch.
11. (Withdrawn) A method for evaluating the quality of life of a caregiver who takes care of an incontinent person, comprising the steps of:
 - (a) receiving information about an average free time the caregiver can have within a day;
 - (b) receiving information about a degree of physical burden the caregiver has for taking care of the incontinent person;
 - (c) receiving information about a degree of mental burden the caregiver has for taking care of the incontinent person; and
 - (d) calculating a value of the quality of life based on the received information in accordance with a predetermined algorithm.
12. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 11, wherein the step of receiving information comprises the step of indicating a question and a plurality of possible answers for selection.
13. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 12, wherein the question for the information about an average free time is on how long, on average, the caregiver can be apart from the incontinent person within one day.
14. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 12, wherein the question for the information about an average free time is on how long, on average, the caregiver can sleep continuously without being disturbed by the incontinent person within one day.

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15. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 12, wherein the question for the information about a degree of physical burden is on a physical fatigue the caregiver has.

16. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 12, wherein the question for the information about a degree of mental burden is on an odor generated from the incontinent person, or a lack of confidence about the manner for taking care of the incontinent person.